THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a), (b) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House *(See below)*.

(c) No Centralised data regarding the number of Committees/Commissions set up by various Ministries/Departments during the last three years is available.

Statement

On the basis of a review of the functioning of various Committees/Commissions made by the concerned Ministries/Departments, it has been decided that:—

(i) There should be a complete freeze on setting up of new Committees/ Commissions. Specific approval of a Group of Ministers would be required before any new Committee/ Commission is set up.

(ii) No intra-ministerial Committees or Groups should be set up where expenditure on TA/DA in respect of out-station members is involved.

(iii) The Committees in all Ministries should be reviewed with the approval of the concerned Minister with a view to reducing the number of Committees at least by 50%.

Production of Janata Cloth

1558. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that textile mills in the country are producing Janata cloth for the poor and weaker section of the society;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise;

(c) what is the production made by these Mills during the last three years;

(d) whether any subsidy to the mills is being provided by Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMALNATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Janata Cloth is not produced by the textile mills but on Handlooms by the weavers. It is produced by the State Handloom Development Corporations, Apex and Regional Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies. At present 15 States are engaged in the production of Janata cloth.

(c) The details of production of Janata cloth by Handloom weavers during the last three years are given below:

Year	Production (in Million Square Metres)
1992-93	328.03
1993-94	249.89
1994-95	170.00 (provisional)

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Government of India is providing a subsidy of Rs. 3.40 for each square metre of Janata cloth other than woollen items and Rs. 13.60 for each square metre of woollen Janata cloth produced and distributed.

(f) Does not airse.

Insurance Cover by LIC

1559. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation has been able to bring only 23% of the population under the insurance cover after 38 years of service;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Life Insurance Corporation has been losing investment opportunities due to coming up of mutual funds; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) have reported that the percentage coverage of insurable